

Secretary Marlene Cummings Retires

Former Governor Tommy G. Thompson announced that Marlene Cummings retired after serving 14 years as Secretary of the Department of Regulation and Licensing to pursue private interests.

Governor Thompson thanked Secretary Cummings for her years of outstanding work and guidance on licensing issues.

Secretary Cummings retired from state service on February 25, 2001. She had served with Governor Thompson since the beginning of his administration and was one of his first cabinet appointments.

"Marlene truly is a great friend, a great leader and a source of stability within the administration," Governor Thompson said. "We will miss her sound judgment and her innovative ideas. She has worked well with the licensing boards and her resignation will be a great loss for hundreds of board members and the entire state of Wisconsin."

Governor Thompson said Secretary Cummings has had an extremely successful tenure that emphasized changes

in the handling of disciplinary complaints and adopted innovative disciplinary procedures. Her innovations have included an agency time-line for handling complaints, the use of mandated education and a procedure for managing professionals with drug and alcohol addictions.

"My 14 years of service in Governor Thompson's administration have been both inspiring and challenging," Secretary Cummings said. "We were often at the forefront of significant business and health care developments." Secretary Cummings also thanked Governor Thompson for his encouragement and the opportunity to serve, and wished him great success as a member of President Bush's cabinet.

Secretary Cummings says she is retiring to devote more time to her family. She said that she also needs more time for research and writing.

Alternative Veterinary Therapists

Alternative therapies, as applied to the practice of veterinary medicine, can include acupuncture, chiropractic, massage/physical therapy, magnetic therapy, laser therapy, holistic and homeopathy. These treatment modalities can be performed on humans by certified/licensed individuals that have training in these areas. They do not have to be medical doctors. This has led to some confusion when applying the same treatment principles in veterinary medicine. In veterinary medicine, there are no similar training programs that would result, for example, in a degree of animal chiropractor. Instead, these treatment modalities are considered specialties within the veterinary profession.

VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD



Members of the Board:

Diane Scott, D.V.M., Chair (Amherst)
Jean M. Heyt-Thompson, DVM, Vice-Chair (LaCrosse)
Sarah L. Kamke, Secretary (Schofield)
William Bartlett, DVM (Berlin)
James R. Johnson, DVM (Waukesha)
Elaine H. McGregor (Waukesha)
Larry Mahr, DVM (Oregon)
Linda C. Olson, VT (Exeland)

Administrative Staff:

Patrick D. Braatz, Division Administrator

Executive Staff:

Oscar Herrera, Secretary
William Conway, Deputy Secretary
Myra Shelton, Executive Assistant

Contents

Secretary Marlene Cummings Retires.....	1
Board Roster.....	1
Alternative Veterinary Therapists	1
How to Report a Complaint	2
New Workplace Employment Posting Required.....	2
Important Message from DWD	2
Do You Have Ideas?	3
Disciplines	3
Telephone Directory and DRL Services	4

In the United States, each state has a practice act that spells out what each licensed profession can and cannot do. The Wisconsin Administrative Code concerning the practice of veterinary medicine states that the following acts are limited to those holding a veterinary license:

- a. Diagnosis and prognosis of animal diseases and conditions.
- b. Prescribing of drugs, medicines, treatments and appliances.
- c. Performing surgery.

This means that only a licensed veterinarian can perform alternative therapies within the law, in Wisconsin. For instance, a chiropractor that is licensed in Wisconsin cannot treat animals under the law, only humans. This is true even if a veterinarian refers an animal to the alternative therapy practitioner. Unless the licensed professional is a veterinarian, these licenses or certifications do not allow them to treat animals.

However, the Wisconsin Administrative Code (VE 7.02(6)(a)) allows the veterinarian to delegate to an unlicensed assistant, the provision of veterinary medical services under the direct supervision of a veterinarian when the veterinarian is personally present on the premises where the services are provided.

This allows the veterinarian access to individuals with training in an alternative therapy, who are not veterinarians, as long as the services are performed with a veterinarian personally on the premises where it is being performed. However, it is important to remember that the veterinarian is held responsible for any problems or complaints that may arise as a result of the procedure. Therefore, it is important to become knowledgeable about the techniques used.

How to Report a Complaint

James R. Johnson, DVM

A complaint against a veterinarian in Wisconsin must be filed in writing. This is done by completing a **complaint form** that can be obtained from and returned to the Division of Enforcement in Madison.

There are three ways to obtain a copy of the complaint form:

1. Write to: Department of Regulation and Licensing
Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
2. Call (608) 266-7482. Follow the prompts to request a complaint form to be sent.
3. Print the complaint form from the Department of Regulation and Licensing web site at www.drl.state.wi.us.

Upon completion, the form must be returned to:

Department of Regulation and Licensing

Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

The members of the Examining Board do not talk to anyone about a complaint or case. They cannot offer an opinion except at an official meeting. Any board member discussing a case or complaint outside the designated venue will not be included in the official discussion about that case. Therefore, please do not call an exam board member or anyone at the Division of Enforcement. The only way to make a complaint is to first file the written form.

New Workplace Employment Posting Required

A workplace employment posting is now required in Wisconsin work sites employing health care workers. A new Wisconsin law effective June 1, 2000 creates specific employment protection from retaliation for health care workers who report violations of state or federal laws, rules or regulations to enforcement authorities. Further, the retaliation protection extends to health care workers who report situations in which standards of care, based upon either law or professionally recognized accrediting standards, are violated in a way that pose a potential risk to public health or safety.

Work sites required to display the posting include: hospitals, nursing homes, community based residential facilities, and county operated health care facilities. Further, dentists, psychologists, social workers, marriage and family therapists and other professional counselors, optometrists and chiropractic offices are covered by the posting requirement. Pharmacies, hospices and home health agencies, and emergency medical first responders also must display the posting. Failure of a covered employer to post the required posting will result in a \$100 fine. Further, covered employers are required to inform their employees of the rights and remedies available to them under this Act 176.

For a poster or a complete listing of all workplaces covered by the law, contact John Metcalf at WMC, (608) 258-3400, or e-mail jmetcalf@wmc.org. Visit the WMC website, www.wmc.org, where you can review all the provisions of 1999 Wisconsin Act 176, as well as the required posting.

Important Message From the Department of Workforce Development

Failure to pay court-ordered child support may result in the suspension or non-renewal of professional licenses, including those issued by the Department of Regulation and Licensing and regulatory boards.

Recently enacted Wisconsin laws (mandated by federal government) give local child support agencies the ability to request suspension or denial of licenses of people whose names appear on the Child Support Lien

Docket and who owe more than \$1,000 or three months' worth of child support.

Past-due child support creates a lien against all of a payer's titled property. The lien is entered into Wisconsin's Child Support Lien Docket when past-due support reaches a specified threshold. In October 2000, the threshold was \$30,000 in past-due support. It is being lowered in stages; the subsequent stage, in January 2001, is \$20,000.

Child support agencies will notify payers at the time their names are added to the Child Support Lien Docket and prior to initiating license suspension action. Satisfaction (payment in full) of the child support lien, or entering into and complying with a plan to pay off the past-due support, will halt license suspension action.

For more information about Child Support Liens and license suspension, please contact your local child support agency.

Do You Have Ideas for the Digest?

If you have items of interest that you would like the Veterinary Examining Board to address in their Regulatory Digest, the Board would like to hear from you. Please address them to Linda Olson, VT, Digest Advisor, Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board, c/o Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935.

Disciplines

JENS OTTO LUEBOW DVM

MADISON WI

SUSPENDED/COSTS

Failed to remove all ovarian tissue in an ovariectomy of a cat and two dogs. Failed to properly suture the left ovarian pedicle in an ovariectomy of a dog. His license is suspended for a period of not less than 20 days, or until he complies with a remedial education requirement. Must also complete a course in the performance of ovariectomies on small animals. Costs of \$86,114.90. Effective 3/29/2000. Sec. 453.07, Stats. VE 7.06(1) Case #LS9703031VET

STANLEY REED THIEMAN DVM

WEST ALLIS WI

EDUCATION

Failed to make adequate inquiry into a cat's condition; failed to perform necessary testing; failed to reach an adequate diagnosis; failed to consider or prescribe other medications and/or treatment; and inappropriately prescribed medication without confirming the diagnosis. Complete course by 2/24/2001. Effective 5/24/2000. VE 7.06(1),(2) Case #LS0005243VET

WILLIAM JAMES SANFILIPPO DVM

TOMAHAWK WI

EDUCATION

Failed to maintain adequate treatment records. Ordered to complete at least 8 hours of continuing

education approved in advance by the board in the area of record keeping by 1/26/2001. Effective 7/26/2000. VE 7.03 Case #LS0007262VET

WILLIAM R LOSCH DVM

CUDAHY WI

LIMITED-EDUCATION

Failed to comply with a previous board order within the required time period. He had been ordered to complete coursework. Must now complete coursework by 11/24/2000. Effective 5/24/2000. Sec. 453.07(1)(h), Stats. Case #LS0005241VET

ROXANNE E CLIFF DVM

MONTELLO WI

REPRIMAND

Administered excessive doses of Banamine to a puppy; failed to perform blood tests or radiographic studies; failed to record significant physical changes; failed to refer the puppy. Complete a continuing education course by 1/31/2001. Effective 7/26/2000. VE 7.06(1) Case #LS0009261VET

DAVID H MILLS DVM

CLEVELAND WI

REVOKED

Practiced veterinary medicine while his license to do so was suspended by board order, and billing clients for his services as if he were authorized to provide those services. Costs. Effective 2/1/2001. Secs. 453.05(1), 453.07(1)(b),(g),(h),

Quick Keys

To request a credential application for your profession, just dial (608) 266-2811, then enter the Quick Keys number below for the profession you want:

Veterinarian (DVM)	1-5-3
Veterinary Technician (VT)	1-5-4
Re-Registration	1-1-2
(Any profession expired 5 years or more)	

Department of Regulation and Licensing
Veterinary Examining Board
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

REGULATORY DIGEST

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
Paid
Madison, WI
Permit No. 1369

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Telephone Directory

**Automated Phone System for the Health Professions:
(608) 266-2811**

Press 1 **Request Application**

Press 2 **Name or Address Change**

Need a Duplicate License

Request a Letter of Good Standing

Press 3 **Complaint Filing Information**

Press 4 **Status of a Pending Application**

Press 5 **Verifying Current Status of a Credential Holder**

Press 6 **Repeat Menu Choices**

Fax (608) 261-7083

Verifications

Verifications are now available online at www.drl.state.wi.us. Once you have accessed the Department website, please click on "Business and Professional License Lookup."

If you do not use the online system, then all requests for verification of licenses/credentials should be submitted in writing. There is no charge for this service. Requests should be sent to the Department address or may be faxed to (608) 261-7083, Attention: Verifications.

Endorsements

Requests for endorsements to other states must be in writing. The cost is \$10. Please make check or money order payable to the Department of Regulation and Licensing.

2001 Meeting Dates

November 27.

Digests on Web Site:

March 28, May 23, July 25, September 26, November 28

Visit the Department's Web Site

<http://www.drl.state.wi.us/>

Send comments to dorl@drl.state.wi.us

Wisconsin Statutes and Code

Copies of the Veterinary Statutes and Administrative Code can be ordered through the Board Office. Include your name, address, county and a check payable to the Department of Regulation and Licensing in the amount of \$5.28. The latest edition is dated February, 2001.

Change of Name or Address?

Please photocopy the mailing label of this digest, make changes in name or address, and return it to the Department. Confirmation of changes are not automatically provided.

WIS. STATS. S. 440.11 ALLOWS FOR A \$50 PENALTY TO BE IMPOSED WHEN CHANGES ARE NOT REPORTED WITHIN 30 DAYS.

Subscription Service

Bi-annual digest subscriptions are published for all Boards housed within the Department at a cost of \$2.11 each per year. LICENSEES RECEIVE THEIR BOARD REGULATORY DIGEST FREE OF CHARGE. Others may send the fee and this form to the address listed above.

Subscription Service Order Form

Name

Company/Organization

Street Address/P.O. Box

City/State/Zip + 4

County

Digest(s) desired:

G:\DIGEST\Vet501.doc